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UN CONSIDERATION OF THE TTPI

The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI), is the sole strategic trust territory. Under Article 83 (1) of the U.N. Charter, all functions of the United Nations regarding strategic areas are to be exercised by the Security Council. However, the Security Council in 1949 requested the Trusteeship Council to perform on its behalf the supervisory functions specified in Articles 87 and 88 of the Charter. The Trusteeship Council has regularly dispatched Visiting Missions to the TTPI to observe conditions at intervals of no more than three years. The seventh Visiting Mission, consisting of representatives of Liberia, the United Kingdom, Australia, and France, has recently returned from the TTPI and will report to the next session of the Trusteeship Council which will convene in New York in late May.

Since 1949 the United States, as administering power, has submitted annual reports to the Trusteeship Council dealing with political, economic, social, and educational conditions in the TTPI.

At its June-July 1966 session, the Trusteeship Council noted with satisfaction the constitution of the Congress of Micronesia, and stated that the Micronesian people should consider "both when and how they may wish to exercise their inalienable right of self-determination." The Council urged that the Congress of Micronesia be given more definitive powers, especially over finance, and the organization and means to exercise these powers. It suggested that the importance of political development at the local level not be neglected, and that a Civil Service Commission be established to promote a unified civil service.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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In the economic field, while commending the United States for the introduction of Peace Corps volunteers and proposals to increase financial appropriations, the Council urged that development objectives be coordinated as closely as possible with the findings of the Robert R. Nathan Report (released in March 1967). In the social, education and health fields, the Council recommended that renewed consideration be given to the establishment of a junior college. It urged that the Administration be guided by the 1966 WHO Report in improving medical and health services.

The TTPI has also been discussed in the Committee of 24. In 1964, the Committee recommended, among other things, that the Congress of Micronesia be provided with "all powers necessary to pave the way for the speedy implementation of the Colonialism Declaration" and that the people express their wishes as to their future status "through well established democratic processes and under U.N. supervision." It suggested the establishment of an overall economic development plan and recommended a visiting mission to the TTPI. The U.S. Representative pointed out that the Committee's recommendation of a visiting mission did not conform to the U.N. Charter which provides for visiting missions to the trust territories to be authorized by the Trusteeship Council. He noted also that such visiting missions visited the Territory regularly.

In 1965, the Committee of 24 did not consider the TTPI. In 1966, however, the Committee again considered the TTPI, along with Guam and American Samoa. The Committee of 24 adopted the recommendations of the Subcommittee which again recommended a visiting mission to the area.

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